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THE
BOOK
OF THE
CHRONICLES
OF THE
Chief MINISTER of E—d.

*And it shall come to pass in those Days, that young Men shall see
Visions, and old Men shall dream Dreams.* JOEL.

Translated from the Original *ARABIC* of ABRAHAM BEN
GORION : A Descendant of the Historian JOSEPHUS.

BOOK II.

Book I Dec No 64



LONDON:

Printed for ZIMRI, the Son of KORAH ; and sold at his Shop near
the Synagogue ; and by all the Booksellers in the Land of England.

MDCCXLV. (Price Six-pence.)

THE
BOOK
OF THE
CHRONICLES
OF THE
Chief Minister of A—



And it shall come to pass in 1806 that young John shall be
born, and all Men shall obtain Freedom.

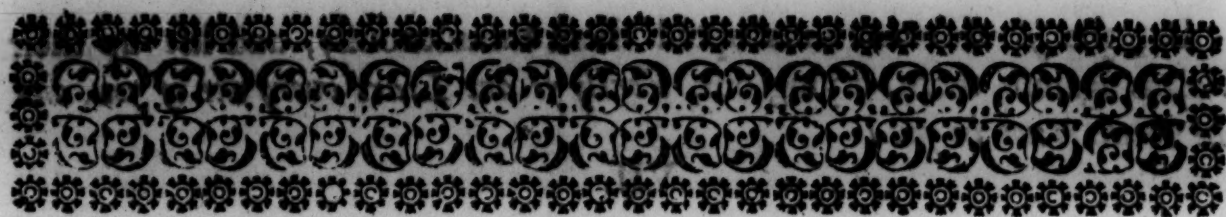
Translated from the Original ARABIC of ANANIAS BEN
GABRIEL: A Descendant of the Primitive Hebrews.

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THE SECOND
BOOK of the CHRONICLE, &c.

CHAP. I.

The Inhabitants of Shallbim are feasted by the Candidates (Jeroboam and Ishmael.) Great drinking, and quarrelling, and reviling, and scoffing between the two Parties — A wonderful Instance of Valour in a drunken Taylor, ver. 8. to the End of the Chapter.

NOW it came to pass, that the *Shallbimites*, who were of the Party of *Jeroboam*, sat down to eat and to drink; and they guzzled and gormandized until they became like a Herd of Swine.

II.

And when they were drunken, every Man laid hold on his Cudgel and his Broom-Stick, and issued out.

III.

But when the Men of *Ishmael* saw this, they came out against them also, and they spake unto the *Jeroboamites* saying,

IV.

Ye Fools and Blind! know ye not that Jeroboam is the Tool of R——t the chief Minister, and R——t is a Friend unto our Enemies the Philistines,

V.

*Doth he not suffer them to rob, and † * * * * * and to insult over us, saying, Who are ye?*

† Here was an Erasure in the Original Manuscript, which may be seen by applying to *Zimri the Bookseller*, at his Shop near the Synagogue.

VI.

But the *Jeroboamites* interrupted them tumultuously, and lift up their Voices against them, crying out, *Verily ye are Liars every one of you, and the Truth is not in you!*

VII.

Doth not Ishmael join himself in his Heart unto Isachar the P——r? who lieth in wait to deliver us over unto the Beast with the three Heads; whose Whip is in his Right Hand, and the Keys of the bloody Inquisition in his left.

VIII.

But while they were thus reviling one another, behold a certain Taylor, who was made valiant by the Strength of the Wine, and not having the Fear of his Wife before his Eyes; had left his Goose in the Fire, and came out to see the Tumult.

IX.

Now this Man was one of the Sons of *Belial*, and having Mischief in his Head, and his Bodkin in his Hand; he said in his Heart, *I will shew myself this Day a mighty Man in Israel!*

X.

So he came privily behind one of the Ring-leaders of the *Ishmaelites*, and valiantly thrust the Bodkin into his Posteriors: And the Man roared aloud, and great was the Noise thereof.

XI.

But the Taylor's Heart smote him, and Fear came upon him, and he fled with exceeding great Swiftness towards the Men of *Jeroboam*; and hid himself in the Multitude.



CHAP.

C H A P. II.

*A mighty Battle is fought between the Jeroboamites, and the Ishmaelites,
 — The great Valour, and heroic Atchievements of both Parties,
 — The Victory is doubtful at first, and many are discomfited on both
 Sides. Which thou mayest possibly find without having the Verses pointed
 out unto thee. The Victory is given to the Ishmaelites, as thou wilt
 perceive before thou arrivest at the End of the Chapter.*

I.

Albeit the Ishmaelites pursued the Taylor with shouting and a great
 Noise; but the Men of Jeroboam protected him, and assaulted the
 Ishmaelites, and behold the Battle began.

II.

And the Conflict was very great! There mightest thou see the mighty
 Deeds of blood-thirsty Butchers and enraged Masons. There mightest thou
 behold with thine Eyes the hardy Exploits of furious Carpenters and the
 terrible Deeds of mighty Blacksmiths.

III.

There mightest thou see some with broken Skulls, others with dismount-
 ed Noses, some cursing and swearing, others roaring and grinning; some
 running away with all their might, and stumbling over Blocks, and
 Wheel-barrows, and old Women, and Children, into the Kennels, and the
 Dunghills, and the puddle Holes.

IV.

Many also were discomfited by the Kicks in the Belly, by the punch-
 ing in the Stomach, and by the buffeting in the Face.

V.

And these Men were sorely assaulted by the risings and the Fumes of
 the Liquor within, and by the knocking and thumping which they re-
 ceived without; and they leaned their Heads against the Sign-Posts, and
 Shop-Bulks, and stood sp——g in the Streets.

VI. And

VI.

And the Sight thereof was filthy before the Eyes of all the Beholders: And peradventure may also offend the Delicacy of the gentle Reader. Therefore let us turn away our Eyes from the Prospect; yea let the Idea thereof be rooted out of our Thoughts, let us bend our Attention to mightier Events.

VII.

For behold the Battle is decided; yea the great the important Victory is determined. The *Jeroboamites* are discomfited, and are fled before their Enemies; and the *Ishmaelites* pursued them, and smote them with the stroke of the Bludgeon.

VIII.

And many fell by the Cudgel, and the Broom-stick, and the Brick-bat: nevertheless, they that were sober enough to run away, escaped, and fled every Man to his Tent.

IX.

And the *Ishmaelites* followed them and brake their Windows.



C H A P. III.

The Day of Election being come, the People assemble themselves together to give in their Votes, under the Direction and Influence of Bribery and Corruption, two heathen Deities — R — t sendeth an evil Spirit among them, which appeareth in a monstrous Shape — the People show great Reverence to the Spirit, ver. 3. certain extraordinary Proceedings among them — Jeroboam is at length elected, ver. 15, the Author breaketh out into strange Observations and wonderful Reflections on the Rectitude and Fitness of some Things.

I.

Moreover, when the Day of voting was fully come, the Candidates, the Magistrates, and the Multitude of the People, assembled themselves together in the Town-Hall.

II.

Then came Bribery and Corruption, and presided over the House and influenced all the Proceedings thereof.

III. And

III.

And Bribery appeared in the Shape of a Justice of the Peace, and Corruption like a needy Lord. Moreover an evil Spirit was sent by the Lord through the Spirit, and the Spirit appeared in the Likeness of a mighty Bag of Money, and flew to and fro, and was here and there, and every where among them; and the People had Respect unto the Apparition.

IV.

And there stepped forth a certain Man, and he began to take the Number of the People that called on the Name of Ishmael.

V.

Then did Jeroboam lift up his Eyes, and they that were of his Party looked, and behold there were many who voted for Ishmael; and when they saw this, their Hearts failed them and they were sore abashed.

VI.

Howbeit a certain Officer, called a Sheriff, arose and took with him the Mayor of the Town; and they twain came among the People, saying, renounce ye every Man of you the Name of Ishmael, and cleave unto Jeroboam.

VII.

And one of the Burgeses answered them saying, Ye Men of Jeroboam, wherefore tempt ye the People, know ye not that we are free-born English Men? Moreover is there any Man among you that will sell his Birth-right for a Mess of Pottage?

VIII.

Albeit the Sheriff urged him, and took him by the Hand, saying thou art my Friend, and an honest Man, and Wisdom is with thee; now therefore shalt thou vote for us, and we will speak unto the King, and thou shalt stand before him and become a great Man, and possess Riches: Yea thou shalt be greater than Habbakkuk the Church-Warden!

IX.

Nevertheless the Man hearkened not unto the Voice of the Sheriff: For he was a wary Man, and trusted not unto fine Promises. And he answered and said, Verily, Verily! as touching these things, they are an Abomination unto me.

X.

For behold am not I a Tenant; and doth not my Landlord vote for Ishmael? And I and my Wife, and my Children, and my Oxen, and my Sheep and my Hogs, and all my Substance are in the Power of my Landlord.

XI.

And it shall come to pass that when I have voted against his Opinion; then shall he say unto me, Wherefore didst thou this Thing? now therefore pay me all that thou owest me, and get thee out of my House, and depart hence, for thou mayest dwell no longer in my Land.

XII.

And when I am thus cast out, I shall be reduced, and become a Vagabond on the Face of the Earth; and when I am hungry, and weary, and thirsty in the Wilderness, no Man will cause me to sit down and eat Bread.

XIII.

Then went they unto another of the Ishmaelites, and said, Be thou for us: But the Man reply'd, Wherefore; and they answered him saying, See'st thou not that here is Money? we will give thee an hundred Pieces of Silver.

XIV.

And the Ishmaelite answer'd, Nay, but I will have an hundred and fifty: Albeit they gave him not so much, but an hundred and forty Pieces did they give him; so the Man took the Money and hollowed out saying, Jeroboam, Jeroboam! Huzzza for ever, Jeroboam, Jeroboam!

XV.

And in this manner did they proceed until Jeroboam was chosen: But Ishmael did they reject and cast out.

XVI.

Thus did the Emissaries of R—— proceed throughout all the Land; and their Party encreased among the People, and waxed very numerous: And these Practices are called Elections unto this Day.

XVII.

Thus O E——d, are thy Liberties preserved unto thee! thus (by the free, uninfluenced, impartial Voice of the People) are thy Law-givers elected! thus is thy boasted Constitution upheld; and on this glorious, this infallible Foundation, are thy inestimable Privileges established and supported. Thus are the Rulers, and Governors, and Elders, and Judges, chosen from among thy great Men! and thus are Laws made, and in this Manner is Judgment executed, and Justice administered among the People!

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

The King summoneth the Elders of the People; who assemble together in the Temple of Wisdom. His Majesty's Oration predestinated for ever. The prince causeth the People to be taxed—they exclaim bitterly against him, and instruct their Elders—remarkable Form and Manner of an Instruction.

II.

NOW it came to pass, that the King sent forth his Edict, and caused it to be proclaimed, saying *Let all the Princes, and the Nobles of the Land, and the Deputies and Elders of the People assemble themselves together, and meet in the Temple at Wisdom.*

III.

And the King's Proclamation was obeyed, and the Princes, and the Nobles of the Land, and the Deputies and Elders of the People, met together, and assembled in the Temple at Wisdom.

IV.

And Ruler the Prince Master was there among them: Moreover the King arose, and came unto the Temple, and made a Speech unto the Assembly.

V.

And the Voice of Ruler was heard in the House. Moreover the Speech of the King was mightily applauded; and the People cried out, saying, *the Voice of the King is as the Voice of an Angel! Yea verily the Speech is a most gracious Speech!*

VI.

And a Law was enacted, and called the *Act of Approbation*; and the Law is founded on this Maxim, *That every Speech from the Throne which a King of Eternity ever has made, or doth make, or ever shall make, was, and is, and ever will be A most gracious Speech.*

VII.

And this Law is published in the City, and the Sound thereof shall be heard in the Streets for ever: Yea, it shall be like the Laws of the Medes and Persians, which which alter not. *And every King's Speech shall be full of Grace for ever.*

VIII.

And Ruler lift up his Eyes, and behold great Numbers of Placemen sat among the Elders, and those that had received Gifts at his Hands, were there

IX. And

And he saw that the Majority of the Members were all his Friends; and the Multitude of them was great. Yea they were many more than the half of the House.

X.

And the Sight pleased R——t exceedingly: and he opened his Mouth and cryed aloud, saying, *Let all the People be taxed.*

XI.

So the People were taxed: And great murmuring was heard among them; and they cried out unto their Elders, saying, *Wherefore are we thus grievously taxed; and why is our Substance taken away from us, and given unto Cormorants, and Sycophants, and Harpies, and Placemen?*

XII.

Verily this is not meet; for behold when all that we have is taken from us, who then shall provide for our Wives and our little Ones.

XIII.

Now therefore receive our Instructions, and according to all that we shall speak unto you, that do ye,

XIV.

For behold we are all Statesmen, and Politicians, and Knowledge and Experience is with us: Verily, we have an undoubted Right to teach you Understanding: That our Wisdom may be known among the Nations upon Earth.

XV.

So they instructed their Elders in the following Manner.

XVI.

Ye shall speak with Freedom, and with Courage, and with Boldness, against all the Placemen; and against the Ministry shall ye testify, and exhibit our Grievances; and shew yourselves Men!

XVII.

For thus it is spoken by the Prophet GULLIVER, An Administration is a running Sore. And verily in these Days it is come to pass, yea every Man's Nose informeth him, and the Evidence of our Eyes confirmeth it; and manifesteth that from thence issueth nought but Filthiness and Corruption.

XVIII.

Moreover against standing Armies exclaim ye bitterly, even against the Men of War.

XIX.

For albeit our Fighting-Men are no longer terrible in Battle, yet unto the Publicians in the City, and the Publicians in the Country, and to the Sheep in the Pasture, and to the Fowls at the Threshold of the Barn, are they terrible!

XX.

And ye shall call R——t ugly Names, and all his Friends, and they that do Homage unto his Name; shall ye stigmatize and revile: and

“ and they shall be called *Tools*, and *Hirelings*, and *Creatures*, and *Job-
bers*, and *Mercenaries*, and *Heaps of Corruption*.

XXI.

“ And this do with all your *Might*, and cease not until ye have over-
come *R——t*; and persecuted him down unto the very *Ground*.

XXII.

“ *For behold we will have Liberty and Property, but we will pay no Taxes.*”



C H A P. V.

*The great Usefulness and publick Emolument of instructing the Elders ma-
nifested ——. The Speech of Sanballat the Wigornian. He moveth for
the Repeal of the S—pt—l A—t, and bringeth in the Pl—e B—ll.—
The wonderful Effects of Sanballat's Speech.*

I.

AND when the Deputies and Elders of the People received their In-
structions, it came to pass that some of them framed Speeches out
of them; and uttered them in the Congregation of the Assembly.

II.

Nevertheless there were many of the Members who said within them-
selves, *To what Purpose is all this Paper wasted*; so they wrapped them
up, and thrust them into their Pockets: Reserving them for their private
Speculation, in the Hour of Necessity.

III.

But notwithstanding these Instructions were of no Use in the Temple
of the great Assembly; yet in the Temple of *Cloacinæ* were they very ne-
cessary: Albeit the Practice of Instructing the Elders is of very great
Emolument unto the Publick.

IV.

For if they wipe not away the Filth, and Corruption from the Hands
of the M—rs; yet from the * * * of my L—d * * * do they wipe off
the * * * and from the * * * of Sir * * * and J—F—
Esq; they do away the * * * and other Abominations. And
thus is the great Usefulness of instructing made manifest.

V.

Now therefore, where is the Mouth that spake contemptuously of In-
structions, saying *verily the Wisdom of the Elders regardeth them not?*

VI.

And in those Days stood up *Sanballat the Wigornian*, in the midst of the
Assembly; even in the great Congregation of the Elders.

VII.

And his Anger was kindled, and his Wrath was hot against *R——t*
the chief Ruler; and against all the mighty Men who held Places in the
King's House, and in the T——y, and in the Ex——r.

VIII.

“ And he lift up his Voice and spake, saying, ye Men of E——d,
D “ hearken

" hearken unto my Voice, for it is the Voice of Liberty; and unto the
" Words of my Mouth for they are the Words of a Patriot.

IX.

" Now what Man is there among you, that rejoiceth not at the Sound
" of Freedom; and whose Heart waxeth not glad, at the Prosperity of this
" Nation?

X.

" Is there any Man in this Congregation, who is not zealous for the
" Freedom, and Honour, and Independancy of this Assembly. If there
" is any such among us, let him not sit in the House, let him be expelled
" from among us, yea let him be driven from among the Sons of Men.

XI.

" Come now therefore, let us enquire into the Grievances of the Nation,
" and the Oppressions of the People. — Let a Scrutiny be made into the
" Actions of the Governors, the Treasurers, the Judges, the Sheriffs, the
" Counsellors, the Embassadors, the Generals, the Admirals, and all the
" Rulers of the Provinces.

XII.

" And if there be found any one that oppresseth the People, or that hath
" taken a Bribe, or that hath sold himself to work Wickedness, by *prosti-*
" *tuting his Vote to a Man in Power; to the Eternal Dishonour of this House.*

XIII.

" Or that hath been guilty of any evil Practice, having a Tendency to
" destroy the Liberties of E——d. And if any such be found, that
" Soul shall be cut out of this House, He shall be brought to Confusion,
" and his House shall be made a Dunghill.

XIV.

" Moreover let us bring forth the Law which sayeth, *Thou shalt not suf-*
" *fer a Placeman to sit in the House.*

XV.

" But if that Law sufficeth not, then let us make a new Law to amend
" that Law, and let us abolish the Ordinance which causeth this As-
" sembly to continue eighty-four Moons.

XVI.

" For I say unto you, this Law is an Abomination unto me: Howbeit
" R——t loveth it, because it maketh Way for Corruption; and lo
" Sanballat abhorreth it because it breedeth Rottenness in the Constitution
" of the Government."

XVII.

These Things spake Sanballat, yea and many more; but it availed
not, and he spoke again, albeit the Effect was the same: Yea twelve
Times spake he and no Man regarded him.

XVIII.

So it passed away like the Smoke of a Chimney, and was forgotten;
Even as the Preaching of the Priest: When he preacheth before the
great Congregation of the Nobles of the Land, and the Assembly of
Elders of the People.

F I N I S.

